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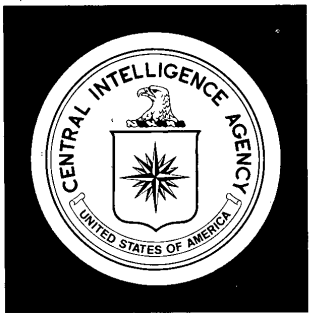
RNP



The President's Daily Brief

June 10, 1974

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~~Top Secret~~

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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

June 10, 1974

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

The Palestine Liberation Organization will delay a decision on participation in the Geneva peace talks until formally invited to attend. *(Page 1)*

The French government will have difficulty explaining away dismissed Reform Minister Servan-Schreiber's charges that military preparations forced the new government to continue nuclear tests. *(Page 2)*

James Cairns, the leading Labor Party leftist, has been elected Australia's Deputy Prime Minister, defeating the incumbent backed by Prime Minister Whitlam. *(Page 2)*

Egyptian President Sadat is expected to visit Romania late this month, according to Cairo's Al Ahram. *(Page 2)*

Labor disturbances in Rangoon have subsided, but last week's violence has left considerable bitterness among workers and students. *(Page 2)*

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FEDAYEEN

Moderate members of the Palestine National Council, which ended a week-long meeting in Cairo yesterday, were unable to win agreement from the radicals on Palestinian participation in the Geneva peace talks. Instead, the Council reached a consensus to delay any decision until the Palestine Liberation Organization is formally invited to the talks. With this concession, PLO Chairman Yasir Arafat forestalled threatened withdrawals from his organization by small groups that are cooperating under the label of the Rejection Front.

The Council expanded the PLO's executive committee from nine to fourteen. Although the change brings into the group a representative of the radical Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine - General Command, the net effect of the increase strengthens Arafat. He apparently now has the capability to carry his views in the PLO and to lead a delegation to the peace talks.

Palestinian leaders will press Cairo and Damascus to elicit an invitation for them to attend the talks. As a tactical matter, they will continue to insist that any invitation, to be acceptable, must acknowledge the "rights of the Palestinians" and allow them to negotiate for an Israeli withdrawal from the occupied West Bank.

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NOTES

France: The government will have some difficulty explaining away the charges by Reform Minister Servan-Schreiber that led to his dismissal yesterday. He asserted that the military had continued preparations for the 1974 series of nuclear tests so as to virtually force the new government to follow through. [redacted] 25X1

[redacted] Servan-Schreiber's presence in the cabinet was an irritant to Giscard's Gaullist and centrist allies. His tenure had been in question from the start. 25X1 25X1

Australia: James Cairns, the leading leftist in Australia's ruling Labor Party and an outspoken opponent of US installations in Australia, has been elected Deputy Prime Minister. This victory over the incumbent, backed by Prime Minister Whitlam, may tarnish Whitlam's prestige, but his leadership does not appear in danger.

Egypt-Romania: President Anwar Sadat is expected to visit Romania late this month, according to Cairo's Al Ahram. The visit will take place against a background of improving relations. There have been a number of high-level exchanges between the two countries since the October war, and the Romanian media have taken an extremely favorable line toward Egypt. Ceausescu apparently believes support for Cairo will have the effect of diluting Arab resentment over Romania's continued diplomatic relations with Israel.

Burma: Labor disturbances in Rangoon have subsided, for the moment at least, as the result of army actions in which at least 22 demonstrators were killed. Last week's violence has left considerable bitterness among both workers and students. Before the disturbances ended, demonstrators were demanding an end to President Ne Win's "one-man rule," in addition to calling for economic gains.

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